

Yemeni premier leaves Moscow

MOSCOW, Feb. 4 (AP). — South Yemeni Prime Minister Ali Nasser Muhammad departed for home today following two days of talks with top Soviet officials, Tass reported. South Yemen is one of the Soviet Union's closest allies in the Middle East. Western analysts believe the Soviet Union is increasing its military and economic aid to South Yemen to compensate for the loss as an ally of Somalia. Western intelligence sources have also reported that Aden was a key staging post for shipments of arms from Moscow to its ally Ethiopia for use in the war against Somalia.

JORDAN TIMES

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80,000 rally for Addis leader

DJIBOUTI, Feb. 4 (R). — Demonstrations in support of Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam were held throughout the country today. Addis Ababa Radio reported. More than 80,000 people gathered at Arar stadium in the capital to hear speakers condemn what they called the manoeuvres of certain Western countries and reiterate the Ethiopian peoples' determination to face up to the Somali challenge, the radio said. Meanwhile the Sudan News Agency reported today that twelve Ethiopian soldiers, including a major, have deserted their units in Asmara and sought asylum in Sudan. It said the men gave themselves up to forces of the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF).

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Hardline states will increase aid to Syria and PLO, and make new bid for Iraqi support

ALGIERS, Feb. 4 (R). — Leaders of the hard-line Arab states have agreed to increase their support for Syria and the Palestinian commando movement and to make another attempt to bring Iraq into their alliance against the Egyptian peace initiative, an official Palestinian source said today. The decisions were taken at summit talks here among the five members of a "resistance front," the source said.

Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) form the nucleus of the front, which includes Algeria, Libya and South Yemen.

The source said a policy document to be issued after a closing session tonight would also contain a clear warning to

other Arab countries not to support President Sadat's peace moves.

The resistance front leaders drew up a plan of action aimed at wrecking what they regard as a U.S.-Israeli conspiracy to impose an unjust Middle East settlement on the Arabs with the compliance of Egypt, the Palestinian source said.

The source said the Libyans had agreed in principle during the talks to step up their financial aid to Syria and the PLO, but the actual sums were still being discussed.

Further signs of moves to strengthen the Syria-PLO axis came on the eve of the conference here, when it was revealed that Syria had given the Palestinians permission to reopen guerrilla bases and set up a radio station in the country. The source added that a high-ranking delegation from the alliance will visit Baghdad soon in another attempt to enlist the vital support of Iraq's oil wealth and 180,000-strong armed forces.

Palestinians, leftists will evacuate armed men from S. Lebanon towns

BEIRUT, Feb. 4 (R). — Palestinian guerrillas and their left allies have agreed to evacuate their armed men from populated areas, following an outbreak of shooting in the southern port city of Sidon, it was announced here today.

Spokesmen for both parties said the agreement was aimed at averting any further excesses by undisciplined elements which recently caused a public outcry.

A one-day strike was called in Sidon last week in protest at a gun battle in which six people were wounded and several houses damaged.

Offices maintained by various commando groups in Sidon's old sector have now been closed to prevent future trouble, which were blamed on provocative elements.

A spokesman for the Lebanese Nationalist (leftist) Movement has described the results of a meeting held with the

commandos earlier this week as important.

Al Watan, the leftist movement's organ, said today arrangements agreed upon provided for "reorganising armed presence in accordance with higher security requirements, including facing the constant Israeli-isolationist (rightist) threat against southerners."

It added that it was agreed that towns, villages and inhabited areas be evacuated by armed men attached to commando units and deploying these in accordance with national security requirements. This will be coupled with a call on Lebanese authorities to assume responsibility for public services and to abandon their alleged policy of ignoring the south on the pretext that they have no official presence there, the newspaper said. It added that the arrangements would deprive isolationists and their agents of exploiting the situation in the south for their own ends.



President Carter (left) warmly welcomes President Sadat on his arrival at the White House on Friday. President Sadat's wife Jehan (hidden by Mr. Carter) and First Lady Rosalynn Carter look on.

Shah fears disaster in Mideast if peace moves fail

NEW DELHI, Feb. 4 (R). — The Shah of Iran today forecast a black future for the Middle East if President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative failed.

"The alternative is almost dreadful to think of," he told a news conference towards the end of a visit to India.

The Shah said Iran backed President Sadat's efforts and would do what it could to facilitate a just peace based on United Nations resolutions and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinians.

"Until the last minute one should not lose hope, although sometimes there is not much to be happy with," he said. Over 70 Indian students were arrested today for demonstrating against the Shah's rule, following similar protests on the Shah's arrival on Thursday. The Shah said he would stop in Islamabad on his way home tomorrow to get Pakistan's reaction to a proposal he made three years ago for an Asian common market.



President Sadat embraces President Carter on the lawn of the White House just after the Egyptian leader arrived in Washington (AP photo).

In Camp David meeting

Carter pleads with Sadat to resume peace talks with Israel

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (R). — President Carter today tried to persuade Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to resume peace talks with Israel and avoid abrupt diplomatic shifts that could complicate the search for a Middle East settlement. Mr. Carter's plea, disclosed by U.S. officials as he and the Egyptian leader conferred at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland, was the central theme in a renewed attempt to break the deadlock of the stalled peace talks in Jerusalem.

President Sadat was expected during the weekend talks to urge Mr. Carter to press for concessions from Israel.

The two leaders held a brief meeting at the isolated mountain retreat last night, soon after President Sadat's arrival and were joined there this morning by their top advisers.

One of the issues discussed was President Sadat's recent request that the United States, Israel's main arms supplier, should start providing Egypt with sophisticated weapons, including fighter planes.

Although U.S. officials were frankly describing how President Carter felt, extraordinary secrecy surrounded Camp David itself in keeping with the American desire to open a period of quiet diplomacy.

Reporters were barred from the vicinity of the presidential retreat and as far as formal briefings were concerned they were told to expect only bare details of the talks.

The White House was also hoping that President Sadat would not overreach himself when he returned to Washington tomorrow night and carried out a three-day campaign to rally American public opinion behind his case against Israel.

President Carter signaled his resistance to calls for American pressure on Israel when he told the Egyptian leader yesterday that it was up to everyone, including Egypt and Israel, to re-dedicate efforts for peace.

U.S. officials said Mr. Carter was attempting to overcome President Sadat's frustration and his anger over what he perceives as Israel's intransigence while following a course far less partisan than the Egyptian leader was hoping for.

Any solution in the Middle East, they said, required compromises, and Egypt as well as Israel must bargain on proposals and counter-proposals.

President Carter, who was taken aback by President Sadat's sudden decision to break off political talks with Israel in Jerusalem last month, was hoping that the peace process could be kept alive without undue drama or new surprises. Egyptian sources said President Sadat might find it difficult to accept the American

align the United States with Egypt's demands on Israel in the suspended peace negotiations.

Events since his visit to Israel had proved that peace was fragile and vulnerable, he said. "We are now at an historic and crucial crossroads," he told President Carter.

He also appeared to have Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in mind when he said that "we should never allow ideological rigidity or fanaticism to endanger this holy march on the road to peace."

Chairman Hua lends support to Sadat

HONG KONG, Feb. 4 (R). — Chinese Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng today met visiting Egyptian special envoy Mohammad Hassan Tohami in Peking, the West China News Agency reported.

During the meeting, Mr. Tohami, a deputy premier, handed a letter from President Anwar Sadat to Mr. Hua, the agency said. Its contents were not disclosed.

Mr. Hua expressed his thanks for the letter and said: "We appreciate the heroic struggle waged by the Egyptian government and people... We condemn Israeli Zionism for its policy of aggression."

President Sadat's Middle East peace initiative, he went on, "is just and conforms to the interests of the Egyptian, Palestinian and other Arab peoples."

Soviet involvement in Horn aimed at Arab oil lines says visiting Eritrean leader

By Ian Kellas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 4 — A prominent leader of the Eritrean Liberation Front who is visiting Amman has cast serious doubt on Ethiopia's ability to launch its widely anticipated attack against the Somalis within the next few weeks.

"I do not think (the Somalis) are in a desperate position," President and Executive Committee Chairman of the People's Liberation Forces of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF-PLF) Uthman Saleh Sabbi said, in an interview with the Jordan Times conducted here yesterday.

Ethiopia disintegrating

Mr. Sabbi claimed that the Ethiopian "empire" was on the verge of disintegration. Apart from the movements in the Ogaden and Eritrea, there was large-scale disaffection among other peoples in Ethiopia -- notably among the Oromo, who constitute nearly half the population of the country, he said.

But he warned that the Russians were making a bid to "station themselves in the Red Sea area for the purpose of surrounding the oil-rich countries." Claiming that the USSR would have to start importing oil for itself in 1983, Mr. Sabbi said it was now trying to install itself on the Eritrean coast in order to be in a position to control Red Sea supply lines.

The Soviet Union would also use this area as a base for subversion of the more conservative Arab states and as an in-

road into Africa, he charged. After Somalia it would be Kenya's turn he said.

Mr. Sabbi said that he was warned by the Russians through diplomatic channels not to underestimate their intentions in the area. There were signs, he added, that the USSR intended to establish itself in the islands of the Dahlak Archipelago in the Red Sea following the forced evacuation by the Ethiopians of most of the archipelago's Eritrean inhabitants within the last few weeks.

The Israelis, he said, already have a base on Dahlak Kebir and they are "working side by side" with the Russians.

South Yemeni troops engaged

Mr. Sabbi alleged that 150 Cubans had been involved in fighting in the west Eritrean town of Barento.

He claimed that tape recordings had been made of South Yemeni troops communicating by radio during fighting in the area. Mr. Sabbi estimated that there were now two 2,000-3,000 "Adenese" fighting for the Ethiopians, mainly in Harera and Massawa.

Chinese involvement

Asked about Chinese involvement in the area, Mr. Sabbi said that China appeared reluctant to interfere in African affairs. But he revealed that in 1967 he had negotiated with China for military aid and been granted about 500 pieces of weapons (mainly rifles) and financial aid worth about \$3,000. About 30 Eritrean guerrillas were trained in China. A couple of years later,



Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh (left) listens to a briefing on the Eritrean situation from Uthman Saleh Sabbi (centre) and a foreign affairs adviser to the Eritrean Liberation Front during a meeting in Amman this week. (JNA photo).

however China switched its support and established diplomatic relations with Ethiopia. Mr. Sabbi was inclined to be cynical about the Western powers' non-involvement in the conflict. He felt that they would supply a small amount of aid to Ethiopia's enemies -- probably through their allies in the Middle East -- but only enough to embroil the Soviet Union in prolonged war in the area.

Only "token" Arab aid

He warned the Russians to avoid an African Vietnam, but he also made it clear that the Arabs should give more generous support to the Somalis and Eritreans in order to safeguard

They are: The Popular Liberation Forces of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF-PLF) of which Mr. Sabbi is President; The Eritrean Liberation Front -- Revolutionary Council (ELF-RC) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea (EPLF). Mr. Sabbi said that Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi are aiding all three groups. Kuwait backs the Revolutionary Council and the EPLF, whereas Iraq helps the Revolutionary Council and the ELF-PLF. Syria only aids the Revolutionary Council.

Jordan, he asserted had given no aid to any group apart from some books and medicines. But he said that more important than that was the political support that Jordan had given Eritrea since 1975.

Weapons from Iraq

The bulk of the arms used by the liberation forces came from Iraq and was therefore of Russian origin. But there were also "a lot of" NATO weapons in the possession of Eritrean forces. These had been supplied by friends in the Middle East, Mr. Sabbi said.

The Eritrean leader has already visited Sudan, Libya, Syria, Iraq, Abu Dhabi, Somalia, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Mr. Sabbi admitted that he was in competition with the other Eritrean groups in his search for aid.

He said that the Eritrean liberation forces still faced "very serious problems". The main one was disunity. "Unless the EPLF accepts unification soon then independence may be handicapped", he continued. He suggested that the way ahead

might be for his ELF-PLF to join with the Revolution Council and "impose unity".

Fashionable Marxism

His group, he said, was not Marxist. It gave priority to liberation before ideology. He added that while there was a tendency towards socialism in all the liberation groups, Marxism was a fashion rather than a deeply held conviction.

Mr. Sabbi said that each group had approximately the same number of troops -- 8,000 to 10,000 each, not including the militias. Their power was distributed regionally.

"If we declare independence today," Mr. Sabbi said, "we will get recognition from most Arab and many African states". He is planning to travel on to West Africa to canvass support. He said that Arab states had been using their diplomatic influence in that area to muster support for Eritrea.

Case before the U.N.

Mr. Sabbi is also planning to raise the Eritrean case at the U.N., arguing that that body still has responsibility for the matter in accordance with Resolution 390 of 1950.

Meanwhile the Sudan has been charged by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) with mediating between Eritrea and Ethiopia. But it was clear that Mr. Sabbi held out little hope for a peace settlement at this stage.

Mr. Sabbi asserted: "The best solution is to create a de facto independent state."

"During this year" he concluded independence will be declared -- this way or that."



Dr. Najouddin Dajani, Minister of Commerce and Industry, cuts the tape opening the General Motors Isuzu Caravan exhibition at the Intercontinental Hotel on Saturday evening. (See People and Places p.3).

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Soviet official says relations with Jordan developing well

By Ian Kellas
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JT). — Relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan are developing well, according to a high ranking Soviet official who is on a visit here.

The chief of the Main Administration of Foreign Tourism for the Council of Ministers, Sergei Nikitin said that the prospects for developing tourism in both countries were big. Mr. Nikitin, whose status is equivalent to that of a minister, is here on the invitation of the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Ghaleb Barakat who last year visited the Soviet Union.

During Mr. Nikitin's visit there has been discussion of a tourism agreement between Jordan and the USSR but nothing definite has been decided. Mr. Nikitin suggested that the initiative was now with Jordan.

The Soviet delegation also discussed their experience in the field of hotel construction and management. If Jordanians wish to train in hotel manage-

ment, they would be welcomed in the Soviet Union, Mr. Nikitin said. But there is no question of the USSR participating in the building of hotels here. About 1,200 Soviet tourists come to Jordan every year on package tours and this figure is on the increase. The main attraction, Mr. Nikitin felt, was the cultural and historical heritage of Jordan. The main obstacle to further development Mr. Nikitin said was the uncertain political situation in the area. He declined to comment on the prospects for greater stability in the future.

Soviet group visits Jerash

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — The Soviet tourist delegation today visited Dhibine, Al Rabad Castle and the ruins in Jerash. The members of the delegation also visited excavations currently taking place in Deir Alla and the Dead Sea region.

The Americans should heed Mr Sadat's words

President Sadat of Egypt has always been fond of saying that the Americans hold 99 per cent of the cards in the Middle East, so presumably he has gone to Washington this week to take a peek over their shoulder and see what card they plan to play next from their hand. It is a dangerous and inaccurate assumption that the United States is the only party that can bring peace to the Middle East. The fact is, the Americans hold 99 per cent of the cards because the Arabs have shown that they hold weak cards, and are unwilling or unable to play the few trump cards they do hold. In the absence of a concerted Arab strategy against Israel, the American position consequently becomes the crucial one. In other words, the potentially decisive American role is nothing more than a reflection of the weak actual Arab one, a fact that is dramatised uncomfortably by the spectacle of President Sadat's hasty trip to Washington.

President Sadat travels the continents this week with little to show for his brave peace initiative beyond the respect of most of the world. But precious little has come from the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations, because the Israelis feel no threats from the Arabs that will cause them to withdraw from occupied territory or recognise Palestinian rights. For President Sadat to seek to substitute American pressure for Arab pressure on Israel is not easy, given the realities of domestic American political forces. If the Israelis are not impressed by Arab power, why should the Americans be?

Well, one reason they should be is the fact that the Sadat initiative continues to divide the Arab World, as we see from the conference of anti-Sadat forces in Algeria this week. If the Sadat initiative does not clearly succeed or fail, but drags on as it has for two months now, this will have enormous negative consequences on the ability of the Arabs to reconvene themselves at any forum where a negotiated and comprehensive settlement is to be worked out with Israel. This in turn will only further polarise the Arabs into two camps, and at this stage it is too early to tell whether the pro-Western or the anti-Western camp will emerge on top. In a situation of political flux, coupled with frustration because of unfulfilled hopes pinned on the Americans, the likelihood -- history shows -- is for a turn against Western interests.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Under the heading "The budget, National Commitment and Ambition" Al Dustour said Saturday that looking at the figures of the new state budget, one is satisfied that the sums allotted for capital and development projects, are nearly half the total budget, which means that the process of Jordan's transference to the stage of an industrialised economy is moving ahead. Further, the newspaper adds, the Minister of Finance's pledge not to raise taxes and customs duties is worthy of commendation; so also his stress, in the name of government, that the necessary measures are being taken to curb high prices and provide a final solution to the country's water crisis. The budget's general features, coupled with the Minister of Finance's pledges and emphasis, certainly conform with the line set by His Majesty King Hussein to develop a productive society in our country, considering the individual as the principal wealth here. Al Dustour continues. The newspaper tends to minimise the budget deficit of JD 15 million (a mere five per cent of the general budget) -- a thing, which the newspaper says, calls for no surprise, since Jordan is shouldering tremendous responsibilities as a confrontation state with the longest frontiers with the enemy...

Under the heading "The mirage of surprises" Al Rai writes that although the Arabs have offered the maximum possible concessions in their quest for peace, Israel yesterday revealed that it keeps asking for more concessions as part of peace. Israel, the newspaper goes on, is trying to "split" the M.E. solution in portions, despite Egypt's insistence, up till now, on a comprehensive settlement, which, we absolutely believe, is not acceptable to Israel, and the U.S., is unable to force it to accept. Therefore, peace will not be all-embracing as long as no radical change is made in the Israeli position. Now that Egypt has discovered or will very soon discover, that a comprehensive solution is not possible owing to Israel's determination to impose unilateral solutions, it behoves Egypt, whose initiative has provoked an inter-Arab rupture, to return to the Arab fold, after its surprise move for peace was launched amidst the mirage of Israel's unpleasant surprises... Al Rai concludes.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Jordan Times welcomes letters from its readers commenting on material published in the newspaper or on any matter of public interest. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and preferably not longer than 300 words. They will be edited only for style and grammatical purposes, and letters longer than 300 words may be shortened at the editor's discretion.

Letters should be sent by mail to: the Editor, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Nominal share value	Volume traded	Opening price	Highest selling price	Lowest selling price	Closing price	Last buying bid	Last selling bid
1. Jordan Pipe Manufacture Co. ...	JD 10,000	280	11.300	11.200	11.200	11.200	—	—
2. Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment ...	JD 1,000	175	1.100	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.100	—
3. Arab Aluminium Co. ...	JD 1,000	190	0.950	0.950	0.950	0.950	0.950	—
4. Jordan Electricity Co. ...	JD 1,000	405	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	—
5. Cement Factories ...	JD 10,000	383	15.250	15.350	15.350	15.350	—	15.450
6. Jordan Petroleum Co. ...	JD 5,000	3,623	6.950	6.950	6.900	6.900	6.850	6.950
Total volume traded, Saturday, Feb. 4: JD 5,056								

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Prince Hassan reviews U.S., U.K. visit

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan today visited the Prime Ministry where he met Prime Minister Mudar Badran and reviewed with him the results of His Highness' visit to the United States of America during which he concluded economic and technical discussions with government and private officials there.

They also reviewed his visit to the United Kingdom and his talks with European Economic Community officials.

Premier Badran briefed Prince Hassan on 1978 budget items and especially those related to economic and development projects.

Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf was also present during the meeting.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Compiled and edited by John Bonar

New special project chief for Alia

Wasting no time getting into the saddle of his new job at Alia's Head Office is Akl Biltaji, new Vice President for Special Projects and Equipment. Hardly has he had time to find a desk since arriving from New York, where he was Alia's Vice President for North America, than he is jetting round the Arabian Gulf researching one of those confidential special projects.

The jovial Mr. Biltaji was well known to TV viewers in Amman in the early 1970's as one of the country's English language newscasters. A popul-

ar figure in New York, where he was posted last year, Mr. Biltaji oversaw the opening of direct flights between the United States and Jordan by Alia operating on behalf of Alia and Syrian Arab Airlines.

Despite the excitement of his challenging position in the U.S., Mr. Biltaji is glad to be home, not least because he can be with his charming wife and four and a half year old son.

General Motors regional executives in town

Bustling around the impressive fleet of Isuzu vehicles at the Intercontinental car park on Saturday night were a clutch of Japanese and American executives of General Motors and their Japanese affiliate, Isuzu.

The Athens based team included Middle East Manager for GM, Raymond F. O'Keefe, Sales Operations Manager Merl F. Emery and Isuzu Sales Engineer Toshio Oseko.

In Amman they teamed up with General Motors agents George and Fuad Tannous to welcome Minister of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Najmeddin Dejjani, U.S. Ambassador Mr. Thomas Pickering and Japanese Ambassador Mr. Tsuchiya for the official opening of the General Motors Isuzu Caravan exhibition.

The executives are travelling the easy way, jetting into each of the Middle East cities the

caravan visits, unlike the drivers and mechanical team who so far have driven some 12,000 kms. along the rough highways of the Arabian desert, raising their fleet of thirteen vehicles across salt flats and through shifting sands.

Guests to the official opening saw film of some of the toughest sections of that journey, shot by the Japanese film crew who are accompanying the caravan.

Diplomatic focus on Amman

After conferring with Alfred Atherton, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs and other U.S. envoys in the Middle East, the American Ambassador in Beirut, Richard Parker, and his wife stayed on in Amman with friends for a few days and took a quick vacation in Aqaba, a favoured haunt of theirs from the time they were stationed with the Embassy here.

For the Parkers it was a welcome chance to renew many old friendships but they just missed another old Amman hand, the U.S. Ambassador to Qatar, Andrew Kilgore, who flew into Amman Friday aboard the Alia flight from New York.

Mr. Kilgore's visit was all too brief but he was able to get out of the transit lounge and spend the evening with his old friends in Amman before catching the Alia connection to Doha.



Mr. Akl Biltaji

National News Roundup

Congratulations to Sri Lanka

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of congratulations to the President of Sri Lanka on the occasion of the country's national day.

ILO away day here for talks

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — Assistant Director General of the International Labour Organisation Dr. Saleh Burqan arrives on a seven-day visit during which he will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Work on cooperation between the ministry and the organisation and aid programmes offered by the ILO to Jordan in different labour fields. Dr. Burqan is accompanied by the Regional Director of the ILO in Beirut Dr. Philip Adhrawi. He arrives here Monday.

Commerce union has 'leading role' to play in Arab development

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — The Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture in the Arab world today started its 5th. conference here. Vice Chairman of the union Adnan Al Kassar gave a speech in which he thanked the government of Jordan for hosting the meeting. He said that the union has a leading role to play in Arab development plans and called on it to put forward well designed ideas which would help make development plans a success in the Arab world.

2 new projects receive loan

AMMAN, Feb. 4 (JNA). — The Industrial Development Bank has decided to give a JD 304,000 loan for the building of a hotel in Aqaba and an aluminium factory in Irbid. These two projects are estimated to contribute JD 117,000 to national income during the first year.

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A scientific seminar, held at the Royal Scientific Society Friday morning in cooperation with the Emerson Electric Company, A.B. Chance Division, was opened by Engineer Abdulrah Jarad, Director of the Mechanical Engineering Department at the R.S.S.

Engineer John Fakir, Emerson's Regional Representative for the Middle East and Africa, gave a speech defining the seminar's objectives. He referred to the experience of Mr. Menard Lowell Holdman and Mr. William G. Edwards, of Emerson Electric, in developing modern technology for the maintenance of electric networks, isolators, electric switches and electric mounted transformers.

After the delegates attended a luncheon given in their honour by the Royal Scientific Society, they saw the modern electric equipment referred to by the two experts and watched slides showing their operations.

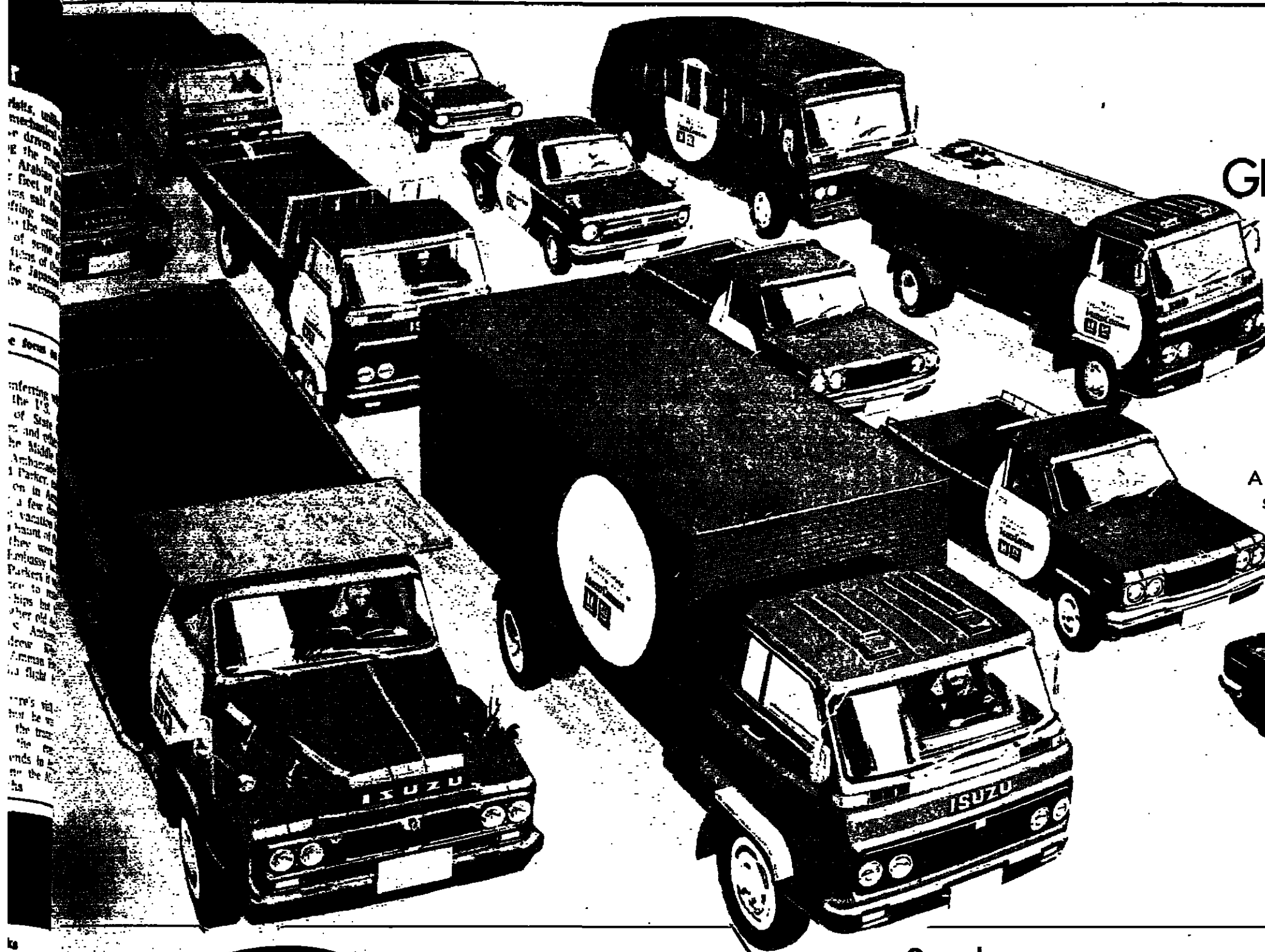
The seminar was attended by representatives of the Royal Air Force, Jordan Electricity Authority, Amman and Irbid Electricity companies, and consultant electric engineers. The meeting was also attended by the Regional Director of the Middle East A.B. Chance in Syria, and the resident Engineer in Jordan Hani Abu Hassan, Director of Public Relations in Jordan, and the general representative in the Middle East and Africa.

Engineer Fakir addressed the seminar in Arabic in which he thanked the participants. He also thanked the Chairman of the Royal Scientific Society Dr. Albert Butros for holding the seminar.

The two experts who arrived here Thursday night from New York will go on to Cairo, Riyadh, and Baghdad to hold similar seminars.

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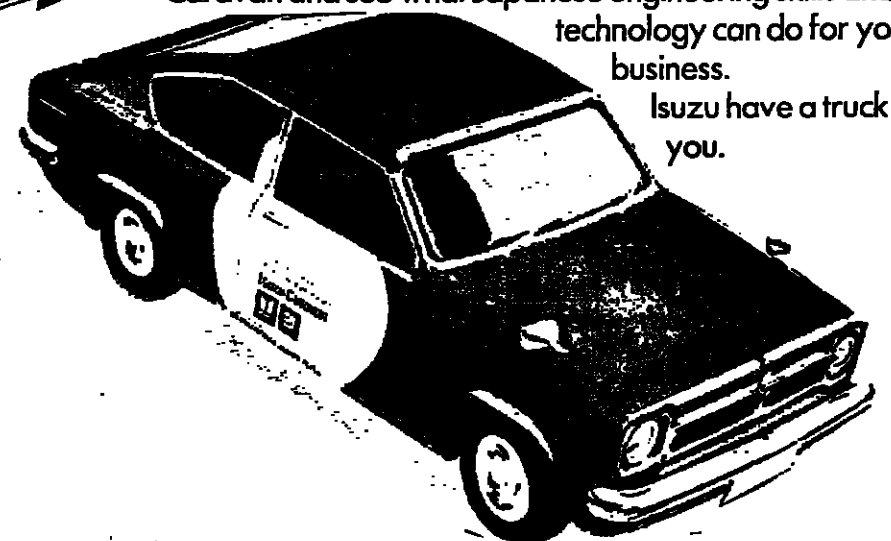


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Wall Street Weekly Report

N.Y. Market hurdles U.S. Steel dividend cut for best showing

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (AP). — The stock market hurdled what looked like a formidable obstacle — a dividend reduction by U.S. Steel — to turn in its best showing so far in 1978 this past week. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, which had fallen 67.05 points in the first four weeks of the year, recovered 6.84 to 770.88.

The New York Stock Exchange's composite index of more than 1,500 common stocks gained .66 to 49.72, and the American Stock Exchange Market value index rose 1.94 to 122.78.

Big board volume averaged 20.39 million shares a day, against 18.79 million the week before.

The pivotal point for the market's week came shortly after noon Tuesday, when U.S. Steel, the 14th-largest industrial corporation in the country reported its year end results.

The company posted profits for the fourth quarter of 11 cents a share, down 88 per cent from the 98 cents a share it earned in the last three months of 1976.

Starting today the Jordan Times will publish every Sunday this weekly New York Stock Market report.

At the same time, it cut its quarterly dividend from 55 to 40 cents a share.

As Newton D. Zinder at E.F. Hutton and Co. pointed out,

it was clear that investors hadn't been expecting any such development. Before the announcement, he noted, U.S. Steel stock was "at its highest level since September and clearly showing strength relative to the rest of the market."

When the stock reopened just before the close Tuesday, it was down some 3 7/8 points from Monday's closing level. By week's end that loss had widened to more than 4 points.

Such a development affecting a leading issue quite often upsets the market as a whole. Last July 27, when Bethlehem Steel lowered its dividend, the Dow tumbled 19.75 points for its worst single-day setback in more than two years.

The week's showing reversed a pattern that has become familiar to market followers of late. Instead of showing stubborn weakness in spite of favourable news, stocks were reflecting what seemed an obvious depression.

"So it could be that the U.S. Steel news, though unfavourable in content and particularly so for its stockholders, may in retrospect prove to be a key juncture in the 1978 market," Mr. Zinder observed.

Israeli shipping line threatens to sell ships due to strike

HAIFA, Feb. 4 (R). — A shipping line which owns three-quarters of Israel's cargo ships yesterday threatened to sell its entire holding of 60 vessels unless seamen call off their two-week-old general strike.

Mr. Yehuda Rotem, Director of the Zim Israel Shipping Line, which is 40 per cent state-owned, told a news conference the vessels would be sold unless a satisfactory conclusion of the strike was reached.

"We can sell them all, allow them to be operated under foreign flags or buy them back later when labour relations will improve with both officers and seamen," he said.

The striking seamen are demanding increased pay for the years 1976 and 1977. The Association of Ship Owners says it will consider the demand only if salary and labour agreements for 1978 and following years are included in talks.

Mr. Rotem said Zim had already decided to sell seven of its ships as "economically redundant." In view of the strike, it would also consider the future of another five, he said.

A Zim spokesman said later two ships had already been sold, earlier this week.

Volkswagen's Beetle breaks into the East German market

Official East German hatred for the "Hitler car," Volkswagen's Beetle, has been replaced by an official order for 10,000 of them. For Volkswagen it's not a big order, but for West Germany it's a big breakthrough.

By Darrell Delamalde

BONN (F.T.). — The recent announcement that Volkswagenwerk A.G. had signed a deal with East Germany to deliver 10,000 passenger cars this year in exchange for goods doesn't seem so earthshaking at first glance.

For one thing, 10,000 units represents only about one day's worth of V.W.'s worldwide production — the German automaker manufactured about 2.2 m. units last year. The worth of the contract — about 90 m. D.M. — represents only 0.4 per cent of the 24 b. D.M. turnover V.W. expects for 1977.

But the announcement merited front-page stories and big headlines in West Germany. Special television reports studied the significance of the first major East German order for cars from the Federal Republic.

"Hitler car"

For the German Democratic Republic, the order marked a retreat from its traditional disdain for the archetypal product of Western consumer society. V.W.'s Beetle had been especially reviled as the "Hitler car."

But the need to placate a population seeking a higher standard of living, plus the inflexibility of a planned economy to shift capital goods production into automobiles, put pressure on the Honecker regime.

East Germany produced only 164,000 passenger cars in 1976, or one for every hundred residents. West Germany by comparison produced 3.5 m. units, or six per hundred inhabitants. The period between order and delivery in East Germany for the middle class

Trabant is normally six to seven years, while the waiting period for the Wartburg Tourist can be twice as long.

Until the V.W. order, East German car imports from the West were confined largely to about 500 Volvos a year, used to chauffeur party functionaries around.

The V.W. cars — all of the Golf (Rabbit) model — will be something of a luxury item in the East. At a cost of 30,000-35,000 East Marks, they will be available only to the elite. Still, analysts here put the V.W. order in the same category as the burgeoning Inter-shops — a concession to the growing consumer drive in the GDR.

The order itself leaves the East Germans with a chance to save face. The details are still being worked out and are supposed to be confidential, but indications are that the exchange goods will be something useful to V.W. — machine tools, auto parts or heavy equipment. It would be a feather in the GDR cap that a major Western firm found East German goods of high enough quality to use.

Breaking the wall

For Volkswagen the deal breaches a hitherto impenetrable wall. Until now, V.W.'s only regular business dealing in the East bloc has been with the maverick Yugoslavia. V.W. has an assembly plant in Sarajevo, which produces 10,400 V.W. models and 2,300 Audi models annually, primarily for domestic delivery. Only small orders have been delivered to Hungary and the Soviet Union.

The new deal covers only this year, but V.W. officials seem reasonably optimistic that this order is the first of

many from the GDR and may open up the whole East European market.

While V.W. suppliers were understandably a bit unhappy about the prospect of East Germany supplying Wolfsburg with parts, the deal itself will have benefits for them as GDR service stations begin stocking replacement parts. These inventories themselves will provide an impetus for continued imports of the V.W. models.

Another indication that the V.W.-GDR business will last longer than a year is the announcement last December that several East German mechanics are coming to the V.W. plant in Wolfsburg to receive training.

The opening to the East could take on added significance for V.W. if the domestic auto boom in West Germany tapers off as analysts expect it to. The company itself conceded that new car purchases in 1978 could slip 10 per cent from 1977's probable record of 2.5 m. units. Besides a flattening out of demand, V.W. also has to reckon with intensified competition, especially from the Japanese.

Little fear of Eastern exports

But the German automaker and European producers in general apparently have little to fear yet from East bloc auto exports. The only Eastern models with any export success at all in the West have been those based on Western models.

Chief among these is the Soviet Lada, based on the Fiat 124. The Soviet Union currently produces the Lada, called Shigul at home, at the rate of 700,000 units a year. A third of this production is exported, with deliveries divided evenly between Eastern and Western destinations. As Ladas began arriving in West Germany, the distributors were encouraged by the sale of 10,000 units in 1975. They geared up to sell 20,000 the next year but final 1976 sales just equalled the 1975

level. In 1977, Lada sales in the Federal Republic rose to 12,000.

The other major Eastern car sold in West Germany is the Polski Fiat from Poland, based on the Fiat 125. Three thousand of the models were sold here in 1977. Just a month ago, Orion GmbH was founded to import Rumanian Dacia, which are built on licence after the Renault 12. The importers hope to sell 2,000 units in 1978.

All these together, however, make up only one-half of one per cent of West Germany's domestic market. Moreover, the models developed in the East bloc without Western licences or help have found no market at all. The Lada is the only Russian car sold here, while the Moskwitsch, the Volga, Tschajka and Sapozhnik arouse no enthusiasm. Equally luckless are the Polish Syrena, the Czech Skoda, and the East German Trabant and Wartburg.

— Financial Times News-Features

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian file	Buying/selling
U.S. dollar	313.00/315.00
U.K. sterling	610.00/614.00
W. German mark	145.90/148.20
Swiss franc	159.40/160.20
French franc	64.10/64.30
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.20/36.40
Japanese yen (for every 100)	129.90/130.70
Dutch guilder	138.90/139.70
Belgian franc (for every ten)	96.20/96.80
Swedish crown	67.40/67.80

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PREQUALIFICATION OF CIVIL
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The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans to build a solar evaporation and potash refinery facility to produce 1.2 million tons per year of potash fertiliser. The facilities will be located between Mazra and Safi on the southern end of the Dead Sea about 200 kms. north of the port of Aqaba. A road has recently been completed between Aqaba and Safi.

APC has applied for financing to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Agency for International Development (U.S.-AID), Kuwait Fund, Arab Fund, Saudi Fund, Arab Investment Company, Abu Dhabi Fund and Islamic Bank. Therefore contractor selection and the terms and conditions of the contract will be in accordance with the guidelines of the lending agencies.

Those civil engineering contractors who are interested in tendering for the solar evaporation system consisting of the construction of the dikes and associated pumping stations are invited to apply for prequalification information.

The contract comprising the solar evaporation system includes the construction of 58 kms. of dikes on soft ground, a brine canal 10 kms. long, the supply and erection of pipelines and pumping equipment and associated electrical distribution and ancillary works. It is intended that those firms of contractors who are successfully prequalified to submit tenders will be so informed towards the end of June, 1978 and that tender documents will be ready for issue in August, 1978.

Preliminary information on the scope of the works, instructions and type of data required from firms wishing to apply for prequalification to tender are available on request from:

Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners
427 London Road
Earley
Reading RG6 1BL
England
Telex No.: 848061 GIBB RG

Copies of the request should be sent to:

Arab Potash Company Limited
P.O. Box 1470
Amman
Telex No.: 1683 POTASH JO

and

Jacobs International Incorporated
251 South Lake Avenue
Pasadena
California 91101
United States of America
Telex No.: 675458 JACOBS PSD

The data called for in the information document is to be submitted to reach Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners not later than April 15, 1978.

ALI KHASAWNEH
Chairman/General Manager

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

AMMAN WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Notice of international competitive bidding and
INVITATION TO TENDERING

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is negotiating a credit from the International Development Association to partially finance a construction programme of the water supply and sewerage extensions for the City of Amman, and it is intended that proceeds of this credit will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this notice is issued. Bidding will be open to contractors and equipment suppliers from countries who are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) and Switzerland. Only tenders from contractors experienced in similar works of this magnitude with proper personnel, equipment and sound financial position, which would be part of evaluation, will be considered.

The works to be carried out will be in principle, divided into eight contracts as follows:

Description

Contract No.:

2S Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Shmeisani and Nuzha comprising about 1 km. of mains, and 40 kms. of laterals and house connections.

3WS Laying of water pipes in Jabal Hussein, Jabal Amman and Sport City. Also supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same area. The work comprises about 3 kms. of water mains and 55 kms. for water laterals and house connections; 40 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections.

4WS Laying of water pipes in Hashimiyeh, Qusour and Nazzal. Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same areas. The work comprises about 48 kms. of water laterals and house connections; 58 kms. of sewer laterals and house connections. Water reservoir in Hashimiyeh.

6WS Laying of water pipes and supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Marka. Work comprises about 36 kms. of water laterals and house connections; 18 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections and civil works for one sewerage pump station.

7MW Supply of water pipes and fittings for contracts 3WS - 6WS.

8MS Mechanical and electrical equipment for water and sewerage pump stations.

9MW Supply of 15,000 water meters and maintenance & operation equipment.

— Supply of maintenance equipment and vehicles.

Tender documents for contracts 7MW and 9MW are available and the closing date has been set at 12:00 noon, April 30, 1978. Tender documents for other contracts will be available starting April 1978.

Interested bidders can obtain tender documents for the stated works, either separately or together, from the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority, P.O. Box - 2412, Amman, Jordan.

The price for tender documents is:
JD 100 for tender 7MW
JD 15 for tender 9MW

THE Sunday Crossword

(formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Etkensson

PICTURE PUZZLE

By D.S. Hutchinson

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1 Uses a scythe | 46 Omens | 75 State abbr. | 109 Declaim |
| 8 Gorge | 48 Cornery and | 107 With N. | 110 Paving |
| 11 Ant's land | 50 Casey | 108 S. I. | 111 Paving |
| 16 Korbut's namesakes | 51 A Nelson | 109 Melodians | 112 Showy |
| 21 Tugboat | 54 Sharpen | 110 Hurry | 113 flower |
| 22 Whapton | 55 Beat hard | 111 So-so marks | 114 Pear |
| 23 Love affair | 56 Calmers | 112 Begot | 115 Very deep |
| 24 Family circle member | 57 "Gripes of Wrath" man | 113 K.O. punch | 116 Local per- |
| 25 Oscar winner, 27-28 | 58 Lupino of films | 114 Straw | 117 mission |
| 27 Oscar winner, 36-37 | 59 Lucio of films | 115 Lab burner | 118 Accidents |
| 29 Macaw | 60 Energetic | 116 Flatfish | 119 Cut off |
| 30 USSR news agency | 61 Grand of films | 117 Pub drink | 120 Standard |
| 31 Bones | 62 Taj Mahal | 118 Marquis | 121 measure |
| 32 Tightrope | 63 Extinct bird | 119 Tootle-oo | 122 de - |
| 33 Tightly stretched | 64 Brooch | 120 Indian | 123 Valley |
| 34 Work unit | 65 Swiss river | 121 Culls | 124 Best act- |
| 35 Sewers | 66 Extinct bird | 122 Crew mem- | 125 bers, 42 |
| 36 Grouped in threes | 67 Brooch | 123 East actor, | 126 |
| 37 Bolls | 68 Swiss river | 124 Ink Fr. | 127 |
| 38 Bolls | 69 Droll | 125 new surface | 128 Brings up |
| 39 Bolls | 70 Droll | 126 Cattle | 129 once |
| 40 Bolls | 71 Droll | 127 "Fuss," for one | 130 |
| 41 Bolls | 72 Hall of Fame | 128 Struffed | 131 |
| 42 Bolls | 73 Hall of Fame | 129 Layers | 132 |
| 43 Bolls | 74 Padres | 130 Backbone | 133 |
| 44 Bolls | 75 Padres | 131 Cleans | 134 |
| 45 Bolls | 76 Padres | 132 Cleans | 135 |

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Prince of India | 12 In a droll way | 37 Express gratitude | 53 William Butler |
| 2 Finnish lake | 13 Mac Fr. | 38 Line the roof | 54 Oscar win- |
| 3 Oscar winner, '55 | 14 Remove | 39 Localities | 55 Oscar win- |
| 4 Slapstick prop | 15 Localities | 40 Singing group | 56 Spanish |
| 5 Dogs | 16 Rumpaging | 41 Vex | 57 Burlesque |
| 6 Gorge | 17 52 to Ciro | 42 Vex | 58 cornucopia |
| 7 Former movie czar | 18 Oscar winner, '71 | 43 Chicago fire | 59 Spanish |
| 8 Blyth or Harding | 19 Sharp Fr. | 44 Clippings | 60 Spanish |
| 9 Searching | 20 Army men: abbr. | 45 Of an anti-septic | 61 Goddess of Heaven |
| 10 European falcons | 21 Cooper of time | 46 Country | 62 Mongrels and mutts |
| 11 Side dish | 22 Is starry | 47 Effluvia | 63 Put to sleep |
| | 23 Hopscotch | 48 Fungus | 64 Student |
| | 24 Explosive charge | 49 Newsstand | 65 Cheese |

Diagramless

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Spar | 17 Swab | 32 Buddies | 51 Perpetual | 6 Regret | 23 Craze | 33 High moun- | 36 Overdue | 42 Kettle | 48 Break |
| 2 Poker stake | 18 Dregs | 34 Level | 52 Turnier | 7 Upon | 24 Offspring | 34 Highway | 37 Taj - | 43 Happening | 52 Old truck |
| 3 Beams of light | 20 Strap | 35 Earhart | 53 Close by | 8 Bryner | 25 Orderly | 38 Hazard | 40 - by (just made ends meet) | 46 Theater | 53 Firm hold |
| 10 Goodbye | 22 At a dis- | 36 Petroleum | 54 Answer | 9 Move later-ally | 26 Mellow or squash | 35 Italian coin | | 47 Inquisitive | 54 Gussy material |
| 11 Case for small articles | 24 Sprites | 37 Descends a cliff by rope | 55 Arrow | 10 Graceful horse | | | | | |
| 12 Sloping runways | 26 Open foot- | 41 Complaint | 56 Poison | 11 Pity | | | | | |
| 13 Burn in-wardly | 28 Self | 42 Greek letters | 57 Seabacks | 12 Time for a lady | | | | | |
| 16 Doctors' group: abbr. | 30 Golf club | 43 Russian sea | 58 Taxis | 13 Western | | | | | |
| | 31 Light browns | 44 Wacky ex- | 59 Traffic sign | 14 Arabian port | | | | | |
| | | 45 Grande | 60 Trueheart | | | | | | |

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Gentleman farmer's custom orchard offered fruit to suit high-society clientele. | 2. "How about a horseback ride Sunday?" "Sorry, it's not a week-end recreation." | 3. One might use marbles in month to garble messages. | 4. Which witch's cat has a twinkle? |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|

CRYPTOGRAMS

- WITHCARE DO GYNNREZTW KENDUDYE DZ BYE NEROY'A WITHC IA ACE GEBYE ADXE BE BUUIODBY. —By Boba Daw
- TIGNAYT, WREBES TPE MS APYKGV, BARE WEIGHTS MG EP OKG IGONAY W8WOGL. —By Rose Sanders
- ZSHSZJE FGS SMJHGJ SMF ZSZJE. —By Earl Ireland
- ZEM'FF JEPTO ORPO MORTAL MORALZ UPKX UNKX'JEMPOFX. —By E.J. Livingston

Last Week's Cryptograms

- Gentleman farmer's custom orchard offered fruit to suit high-society clientele.
- "How about a horseback ride Sunday?" "Sorry, it's not a week-end recreation."
- One might use marbles in month to garble messages.
- Which witch's cat has a twinkle?

Chad rebels capture 3rd hostage, demand French withdrawal

PARIS, Feb. 4 (R). — France's military involvement in some of its former African colonies came under new pressure yesterday as Chad rebels announced the capture of another French hostage. Officials here confirmed that a French student, Christian Masse, 20, on holiday in Africa, was abducted in central Chad on Jan. 18 together with a Swiss national, named as Andre Kummerling.

The kidnappers were said to be Libyan-backed Front (Chad National Liberation Front) rebels. They are fighting Chad government troops for control of the central African country, which is twice the size of France, the former colonial power.

Press and radio reports in Berne said Front was demanding ransoms as well as the withdrawal of 300 French military advisers in Chad in return for their release.

Unconfirmed reports said Front was asking five million Swiss francs (about \$2.5 million) ransom for the Swiss, Andre Pierre Kummerling, 27, an

electrical technician from the Geneva suburb of Onex.

Press reports quoted Front as accusing Mr. Kummerling of intending to spy for the United States Central Intelligence Agency.

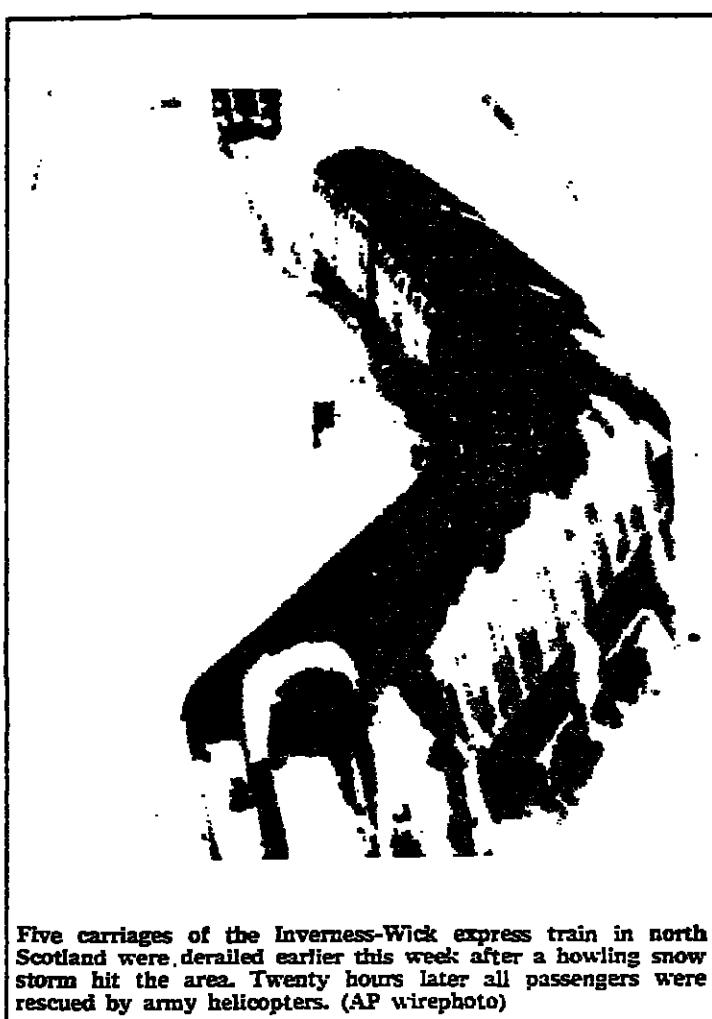
The French were until a few years ago deeply involved in the fighting in Chad with as many as 6,000 troops stationed in the country. France says this figure has now been cut to 300.

France currently has military bases in Djibouti, Gabon, the Ivory Coast and Senegal. French Jaguar fighter bombers are flying daily sorties from Dakar, Senegal, to northern

Mauritania where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas are fighting government forces.

A 1,000-strong rebel force launched an offensive earlier this week against the northern regional capital of Faya-largeau, shooting down two Chad planes with six French air force men on board. Three of them are now believed to be dead, according to informed sources.

France now says it has reduced its military presence in Chad to 300 people, most of them acting as advisers to the country's small army.



Five carriages of the Inverness-Wick express train in north Scotland were derailed earlier this week after a howling snow storm hit the area. Twenty hours later all passengers were rescued by army helicopters. (AP wirephoto)

Andreotti's party compromises on Communist cabinet demands

ROME, Feb. 4 (AP). — Premier-designate Giulio Andreotti last night won approval by the leadership of his Christian Democrat Party for a formula that would leave the Communists out of the Italian government but give them more leverage to influence its action.

There was no reaction from the Communists, who have been demanding direct participation in the government. But the Socialists, who have backed the Communist demand until now, voiced some appreciation. The Socialist organ Avanti called "Mr. Andreotti's up" in the political impasse that collapsed the government almost three weeks ago.

Mr. Andreotti, trying to form Italy's 36th post-war government amid alarming political violence and social unrest over the worsening economy, said he would ask Communist

backing in parliament in exchange for a direct role in shaping the government programme and in supervising its fulfilment.

The new part in Mr. Andreotti's formula was above all the proposal to set up a par-

liamentary committee of the floor speakers of all pro-government parties, including the Communists. This committee would work closely with the cabinet in various fields to be specified in inter-party negotiations.

Nicaraguan president defies resignation calls

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Feb. 4 (AP). — President Anastasio Somoza vowed neither guerrilla attacks that left 14 dead nor a general strike will disrupt Sunday's municipal elections in Nicaragua.

"No violence, no strike, nothing has kept us from continuing to enjoy our constitutional guarantees and one of these is going to the polls without fear and freely," he said last night.

His remarks, in a speech broadcast nationally on television and radio, came less than 24 hours after National Guardsmen battled Marxist guerrilla raiders in southern Nicaragua.

The fighting, on the 12th day of a nationwide anti-government strike, left 14 dead and 24 injured by official count. The casualties included six

guardsmen killed and eight wounded.

Mr. Somoza described the attacks as "violence and terrorism" designed to create disorder in the country during the upcoming municipal elections.

But the urged Nicaraguans to vote, called demands that he resign unconstitutional and said his government would guarantee peace order despite attempts to destabilize the country.

The nation has been in political turmoil since the assassination on Jan. 10 of newspaper publisher Pedro Jose Chamorro, an outspoken critic of Mr. Somoza's dictatorship.

Leaders of the general strike are demanding to know why was behind Mr. Chamorro's slaying and have called on the 53-year-old President Somoza to step down.

Greece: Pre-summit talks with Turks first

ATHENS, Feb. 4 (R). — Greece last night repeated its call for lower-level talks to prepare the way for a meeting of the Greek and Turkish prime ministers to discuss disputes between the two countries.

Earlier yesterday Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit told a news conference in Ankara that he would urge his Greek counterpart Constantine Karamanlis to meet him at the earliest opportunity and that technical negotiations would

not help solve the disputes.

But, commenting on Mr. Ecevit's statement, a Greek government spokesman here said the technical negotiations should come first.

The two countries are divided over Cyprus and over disputes on territorial rights in the Aegean Sea, which have several times brought them close to war.

Mr. Karamanlis has suggested a spring summit after lower-level talks.

U.S. intent on expelling Viet U.N. envoy

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (R). — U.S. officials were today considering how to force Vietnam's chief delegate to the United Nations to leave the country.

Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, named this week by a federal grand jury in connection with a spy case, said yesterday that an order declaring him persona non grata was totally unacceptable.

The ambassador's press statement, in which he said he would continue his normal duties in New York, was considered a formal reply to the expulsion order.

Administration sources said the U.S. might have to go to court to get Mr. Thi to leave, although such a step would not be necessary.

A 1947 agreement covering United Nations activities gives the United States the right to expel any member of a foreign mission who in its judgment has abused "privileges of residence."

Vietnam yesterday rejected the bid by the United States to expel its U.N. delegate.

U.S. officials in Washington

said they did not regard the Vietnamese statement as a formal reply to the note of expulsion.

A State Department had announced yesterday that Mr. Thi had been ordered to leave the country promptly.

He was the first U.N. ambassador ever told to leave the United States although lower-

ranking diplomats at the world body have been expelled before.

Mr. Thi has been named as an indicted co-conspirator in a case which resulted in the arrest on Tuesday of U.S. Information Agency official Ronald Humphrey and Mr. Truong Dinh Hung, a Vietnamese living in the U.S.

Nixon aide Haldeman writes complete Watergate story

By Arthur Spiegelman

NEW YORK -- (R). — Former White House Chief of Staff H.R. (Bob) Haldeman is about to break his four-year silence about the Watergate affair.

His publisher says he has written the book which will answer all the unanswered questions about the scandal which drove President Richard Nixon from office.

Mr. Leonard Schwartz, Vice President of Times Books, said the book -- the Ends of Power due to be published on Feb. 27 -- was so hot that "we have treated it like literary plutonium."

Mr. Haldeman went to jail last June for his part in the White House's cover-up of the June 1972 break-in at Democratic Party National Headquarters in Washington's Watergate complex. He is said to reveal what Mr. Nixon first learned of the burglary, what his reaction was, how much Mr. Nixon knew and when he knew it.

The erased tape

The publisher said the book



Mr. H. R. Haldeman

would also reveal what was on the celebrated 18-and-a-half minute erased White House tape and would identify "Deep Throat," the major source of the Watergate expose by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

Publishing sources recalled that Dr. Henry Kissinger once said: "Only one man, Bob Haldeman, knows 90 per cent of what happened at Watergate. No one may even know the other ten per cent."

They said it was as if the other books on Watergate -- and there have been dozens -- described the tip of the iceberg whereas Mr. Haldeman could describe the iceberg itself.

Times Books, whose previous biggest seller was a book on indoor plants, have mounted a military-style operation to keep Mr. Haldeman's revelations completely secret until publication day.

Total secrecy

Mr. Schwartz said: "Instead of using computers to set the type, we used hot type and then melted it down every day so that no one would have access to it."

"The number of linotype operators were limited and constantly observed. At one point, I had two tons of lead type in my office under lock and key."

"We drove to the printers in the middle of the night and stayed until the next day's proofs were made."

Special precautions were taken

ken at the bindery. Security guards were posted around the clock and people were searched as they left the building.

The waste from the publishing process was ground up and the name of the book was put on copies only at the last minute.

"We didn't stamp the name on it until the very end -- so that no one would know," Mr. Schwartz said.

Prison meetings

Mr. Haldeman, who is due to be paroled in April from Lompoc minimum security Prison in California where he is in charge of the jail's boilers, wrote the book in collaboration with freelance writer Joe Limona.

"He wanted someone to help him tell the story. Joe literally ran a shuttle to Lompoc," Mr. Schwartz said.

Times Books, a subsidiary of the New York newspaper, only got to handle the book after the idea had been shunned by major publishers who felt that Mr. Haldeman would never bare his soul sufficiently to get a useable book.

At one time, Mr. Haldeman signed with television, for a reported \$100,000, to broadcast four interviews with him which related almost nothing.

But Mr. Haldeman's loyalty to his former chief crumbled after Mr. Nixon gave his now-famous television interviews to British television personality David Frost.

After the Nixon-Frost interviews were broadcast, Mr. Haldeman said: "I feel now that I have to challenge President Nixon's explanation of the cover-up."

"I have made a decision to put aside a book I have been working on for the past several years and move ahead full steam on the personal inside story of Watergate."

"I will cover nothing. Everything I have to say on the subject will be said with the gloves off and no holds barred."

The first example of what Mr. Haldeman's Watergate story is like will be read on Feb. 20, when Newsweek magazine publishes the first of a two-part condensation of his book.

Israeli-held Greek-Cypriot journalist says his captors punish him for his newspaper work

TEL AVIV, Feb. 4 (R). — Greek-Cypriot journalist Panayiotis Paschalis, arrested last month on a charge of passing information to Palestinian guerrillas, claims he is being punished by Israeli authorities for his journalistic work.

Interviewed by Reuters in the presence of three Israeli officials in his prison quarters, Mr. Paschalis, 38, denied that pictures he took of public places in Israel were intended to assist guerrillas of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

He said he was working on a book which would have dealt with contrasts between the standard of living enjoyed by Israelis and by Arabs in occupied territories.

The case of Mr. Paschalis and Israeli journalist Hans Lebrecht, who is accused of helping him, is being presented by defence lawyers as an attack on freedom of the press in Israel.

But the prosecution says Mr. Paschalis took hundreds of pictures of hotels from various angles, of beaches, cinemas, power stations and pris-

ons with the purpose of passing them on to "enemies of the state." The charges said he had conveyed some information to Palestinian guerrillas.

At a court hearing last Monday, Mr. Lebrecht, who was arrested with Mr. Paschalis on Jan. 18, was released on bail of 100,000 Israeli pounds (\$6,300). Mr. Lebrecht, who belongs to the Central Committee of Israel's Rakah (Communist) Party, is a correspondent for the French Communist newspaper L'Humanite and for the Italian Communist paper L'Unita.

But the judge ruled that Mr. Paschalis must remain in custody.

Mr. Paschalis, who works for the leftwing Cypriot newspaper Haravghi and for East German television, is married with no children and lives in Nicosia.

Mr. Paschalis said he had visited Israel five times and had received many telegrams of congratulation about his work. "It is my impression that I am being punished because of my work," he said.

"I feel much more the plight of the Palestinian people who are deprived of the right to have land because we have the same problem in Cyprus. I am more close to them because we have similar problems, but I am against terrorism."

He denied that he ever met any clandestine figures -- "unless the police are saying that at mayors of occupied towns are PLO figures."

While awaiting trial Mr. Paschalis is being held in a police barracks near Tel Aviv. Asked about his treatment, he replied: "They promised to beat me up but they did not do it. I am sure nobody will. I believe they will not keep either their promise to beat me up or their promise to keep me here for years because I have done nothing."

Asked about the accusations against him, Mr. Paschalis said: "Contacting an enemy is one of the charges. I have met and will meet in the future all kinds of people for journalistic purposes. I didn't give any information to anybody."

The interview was conducted

in the presence of an Israeli government official, the police inspector in charge of his case and a prison official.

Mr. Paschalis said he went on hunger strike after his arrest to protest against his cramped quarters. "After six days they moved me to a double room," he said.

The police inspector said afterwards Mr. Paschalis had threatened a hunger strike but had not carried it out.

The cell now occupied by Mr. Paschalis measures about one-and-a-half by two metres with two barred windows above eye level.

Scattered on top of the two-tier bunk was a selection of paperback books. Next to the cell is a toilet and shower which Mr. Paschalis has to himself since he is kept apart from other inmates.

During his half-hour per day exercise period Mr. Paschalis walks alone round the 15 metre long yard watched by Israeli prisoners from neighbouring cells. He described his food as "all right."

His main complaint was lack of contact with the outside world.

"For the first week I was in solitary confinement, not allowed to see anybody," he said. After that he received visits from Israeli lawyer Mr. Felicia Langer, who regularly defends people accused of security offences.

Mr. Paschalis said the only time he was allowed to see a letter to his parents he was told to write in English as the censor could read it.

Mr. Langer, who with seven other lawyers will defend Mr. Paschalis and Mr. Lebrecht, said the case had important significance for journalists in general.

"No journalists can be sure that he will not one day be in the plight of Mr. Paschalis if he interviews somebody, say like (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat, and afterwards comes to Israel to write an unfavourable report."

An Israeli government official dismissed this as nonsense. "Correspondents based in Arab countries come here all the time are not harassed because of previous contacts with PLO leaders," the official said.

Abba Eban's autobiography tells how internal Israeli politics frequently thwarted his diplomacy

By Ian MacDowall

LONDON -- (R). — Mr. Abba Eban, Foreign Minister of Israel for eight years, leaves little doubt in his autobiography, published here this week, that his country's internal politics laid the heaviest burden upon him in a quarter-century of diplomacy.

In Abba Eban: An Autobiography (Weidenfeld and Nicolson) he writes time and time again of the problems created for him as ambassador to the United Nations or the United States or as foreign minister by Israeli actions prompted by domestic considerations.

His harshest comments are reserved for two incidents in the early seventies. One was the cold-blooded shooting down of a Libyan airliner by Israeli fighters over Sinai in 1972 with the loss of 106 lives "on the unlikely assumption that the plane was on the way to attack the Dimona research station."

The other was the forcing down of a Lebanese airliner at an Israeli airbase the following year because a Palestinian guerrilla leader was "thought" to be on board.

In condemning Arab hijacking, Eban writes, "We had sought to place civil aviation on a special peak of immunity, removed from all vicissitudes of political conflict. And now a planeload of travellers,

representing a cross section of innocent and vulnerable humanity, had been placed in risk."

Thorny settlements

Commenting on a controversial 1973 plan for Israeli settlement on the occupied West Bank, Eban writes: "Internal politics, not for the first time, had laid a heavy burden on our diplomacy."

In his autobiography Eban states the case for Israel in the Middle East question as sympathetically as he did to the addresses he made to the Security Council and General Assembly in a series of crucial debates linked to four Arab-Israeli wars.

But he states it with a degree of understanding for Arab attitudes which throughout his career has made him suspect to his more dogmatic cabinet colleagues.

On the two issues which have partly troubled the current Israeli-Egyptian peace talks -- Israel's Sinai settlements and control of the West Bank -- Eban strongly favours major concessions to the Arabs for the sake of lasting peace.

Of the West Bank, where he would ask for only selective border alterations, he writes: "Our task must be to seek a political separation with the highest possible degree of mutual contact. To be neigh-



Mr. Abba Eban, former Israeli Foreign Minister

bours -- neither ruling each other, nor being ruled."

Never fully accepted

A clear picture emerges in this long book of a man who, for all his intellectual brilliance, eloquence, and statesmanship, has never been totally accepted by his peers.

Born in South Africa in 1915, a few months before his father's death, he was brought up in England, spending his weekdays at a London school

and his weekends in an "almost brutally intensive immersion" in Hebrew studies with his Lithuanian grandfather.

"Unlike everyone else of my age," Eban writes, "I had never known the taste of a free weekend, or a day in which to walk and live and play at leisure."

The studious youth had a brilliant career at Cambridge, where he achieved the rare distinction of securing a triple first degree. War took him to the Middle East for the first time in 1941 at the age of 26.

Eban's future cabinet colleagues rose to leadership through a harsh school -- as veterans of guerrilla warfare with the Arabs in mandated Palestine or as survivors of the holocaust in Nazi-ruled Europe.

Eban went to Palestine in the uniform of a British intelligence officer. He admits: "I must have appeared a mysterious figure to the Jews of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa with whom I came in frequent contact."

Out of place

Even after his diplomatic successes at the United Nations, where his speeches were hailed as Churchillian, Eban remained an outsider in the Israeli political establishment.

He quotes approvingly an American writer's comment: "Eban, the scholar, who related his high position by force of intellect, seemed strangely out of place amongst them (Israel's Labour Party leaders)."

Elsewhere, Eban quotes Walter Laqueur's phrase: "The special violence of Israeli political life" and comments: "It is hard to contest this verdict."

He seems to have had a closer rapport with the Jews of the Diaspora than with those at home. He writes: "I often met difficulties and discomfort at home in Israel, but my relationship with Jews outside Israel has been consistently 'romantic'."

Whatever his feelings about his colleagues and about his abrupt way in which he was dropped from the cabinet in 1974, Eban is professionally discreet in his comments about Israeli personalities and realistic about the shortcomings of a Foreign Ministry as a jumping-off point for national leadership.

"He (a foreign minister) is more obliged than any of his colleagues to perceive the limitations of national policies and to seek legitimacy for national policies in terms of a broader ideal," he writes. "Public opinion and his own colleagues are able to make the foreign minister the scapegoat for the nation's inability to get its own way."

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